



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
ETHICS COMMITTEE OF THE KENTUCKY JUDICIARY
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
100 MILLCREEK PARK
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601-9230

LAURANCE B. VANMETER
COURT OF APPEALS

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ATTORNEY CHAIR

ANN O'MALLEY SHAKE
CIRCUIT COURT

MICHAEL W. HARROD
DISTRICT COURT

JUDICIAL ETHICS OPINION JE-113

September 8, 2006

QUESTION: May a judicial candidate use either current or past nonpartisan public officials as chairpersons or campaign committee members for his or her campaign?

ANSWER: No, as to current nonpartisan public officials; Yes, as to past nonpartisan public officials.

Judicial Ethics Opinion JE-66 addressed the same questions in the context of current and past partisan officials. Unanimously, the Judicial Ethics Committee agrees that the rationale of JE-66 applies to the above questions as well, and this opinion incorporates the applicable reasoning of JE-66. The rationale would apply to named or unnamed officials.

Very truly yours,

Arnold Taylor, Esq.
Chair

The Ethics Committee of the Kentucky Judiciary

cc: Donald H. Combs, Esq.
The Honorable Laurance B. VanMeter, Judge
The Honorable Ann O'Malley Shake, Judge
The Honorable Michael Harrod, Judge
Jean Collier, Esq.